

County of Los Angeles CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

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April 1, 2004

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From:

David E. Janssen

Chief Administrative Officer

MOTION TO SUPPORT H.R. 3712 (MILLENDER-MCDONALD, D-CA) - UNITED STATES SEAPORT MULTIYEAR SECURITY ENHANCEMENT ACT (ITEM NO. 3, AGENDA OF APRIL 6, 2004)

Item No. 3 on the April 6, 2004 Agenda is a motion by Supervisor Knabe to support H.R. 3712 (Millender-McDonald, D-CA) and to direct the Chief Administrative Officer to send correspondence to the County's Congressional Delegation, California Senators, and President Bush, urging support and early enactment of the bill.

H.R. 3712 would authorize the appropriation of \$800 million for each Federal fiscal year from 2005 through 2009. Funds appropriated under this authority could be used by the Secretary of Homeland Security for grants to seaports to enhance security. The grants shall not be for more than 75 percent of the total project cost, leaving a 25 percent matching requirement for the port. This matching provision can be waived if the project's total cost is under \$25,000, or if the Secretary determines that the project merits greater Federal support.

According to the American Association of Port Authorities (AAPA), the Coast Guard has estimated that compliance with the Maritime Transportation Security Act will cost \$5.4 billion over the next ten years, with \$1.125 billion needed in the first year. Passage of H.R. 3712 would authorize \$4 billion over five years, which would produce a total of \$5.333 billion after the ports provide their 25 percent match.

H.R. 3712 was introduced on February 21, 2004. It currently has 19 co-sponsors, including three members of the County delegation: Jane Harman, Grace Napolitano, and Lucille Roybal-Allard. The bill was referred to the House Committee on Transportation Each Supervisor April 1, 2004 Page 2

and Infrastructure. A companion bill, S. 2240, was introduced by Senator Boxer on March 25, 2004, and was referred to the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation. No action has been taken or scheduled on either bill.

Representatives of the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach report that both support H.R. 3712. No opposition to the bill has been reported.

The Federal Legislative Agenda includes a policy supporting funding to improve the security of critical infrastructure, such as roads, bridges, flood control, water resources, hospitals, public buildings, and transportation facilities. The motion's recommendation to send correspondence in support of H.R. 3712 is, therefore, consistent with current Board policy.

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c: Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors County Counsel Legislative Strategist